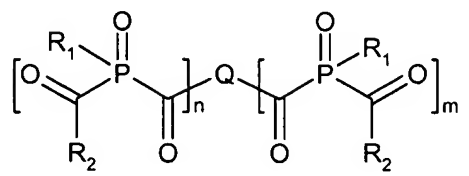


In the Claims:

1. **(currently amended):** Dimer and multimer forms of BAPO compounds of the formula I



wherein

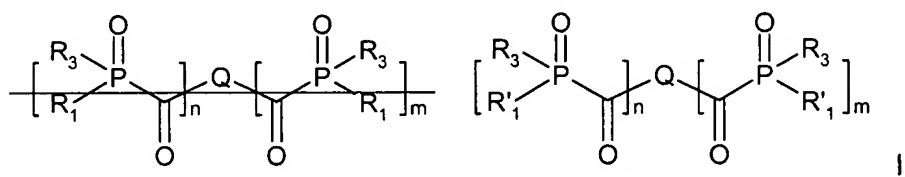
R_1 is unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, benzyl, C_1 - C_{12} alkoxy ~~[[,]]~~ or C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl or ~~C_5 - C_{14} aryl~~;

R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl or C_5 - C_{14} aryl;

Q is a di-tri or tetravalent arylene residue;

n is 1-4, m is 0-2, n+m is 2, 3 or 4.

2. **(currently amended):** Dimer and multimer forms of MAPO compounds of the formula II



wherein

R_1 , R'_1 and R_3 independently of one another are unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, benzyl, ~~C_4 - C_{12} alkoxy~~, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl or C_5 - C_{14} aryl;

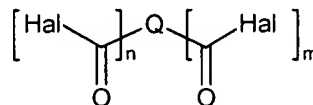
Q is a di-tri or tetravalent arylene residue;

n is 1-4, m is 0-2, n+m is 2, 3 or 4;

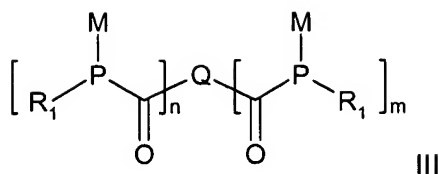
with the proviso, that R_1 , R'_1 and R_3 are different from each other.

3. **(currently amended):** Process for the preparation of dimer or multimer forms of BAPO compounds of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~and of dimer or multimer forms of MAPO compounds of the formula II~~,

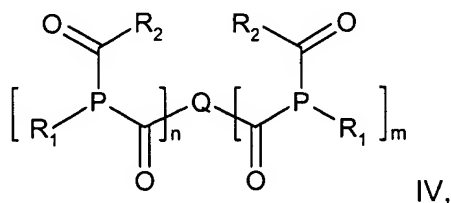
characterized in that (n + m) equivalents of a dimetalated-phosphine $\text{R}_1\text{P}(\text{M})_2$ are reacted with one equivalent of a di- or polycarboxylic acid halogenide



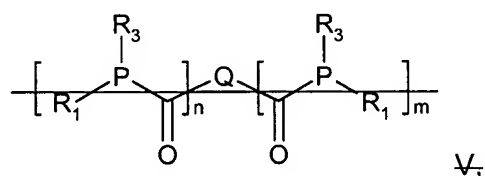
to form an intermediate of the formula III



the intermediate **III** is then reacted ~~either~~ with (n + m) equivalents of a further carboxylic acid halogenide (**R₂-CO-Hal**) to form dimer or multimer forms of **bisacylphosphine**-intermediates of the formula IV

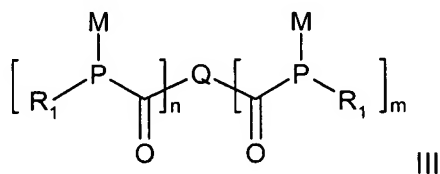


~~or with (n + m) equivalents of a halogenide R₃-Hal to form dimer or multimer forms of monoacylphosphine intermediates of the formula V,~~



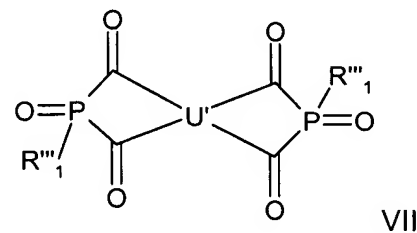
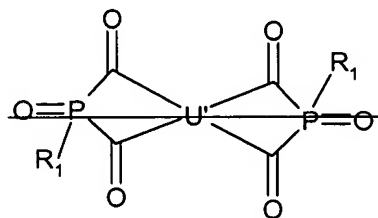
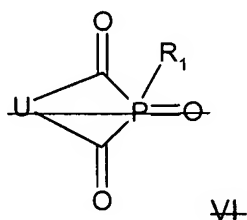
said phosphines IV ~~or V~~ are then oxidized to form phosphine oxides of the formula I ~~or II~~, wherein M is Li, Na or K; and R₁, R₂ ~~and R₃~~; Q, [[:]] n and m are as defined in claim[[s]] 1 ~~and 2~~.

4. **(original):** Compounds of the formula III



wherein M, R₁, n and m are as defined in claim 3.

5. **(currently amended):** Cyclic forms of BAPO compounds of the formula VI ~~or VII~~

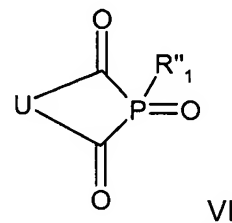


wherein

R_4 - R''_1 is unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, benzyl, C_1 - C_{12} alkoxy, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl or C_5 - C_{14} aryl;

U is a divalent arylene residue and U' is a tetravalent arylene residue.

6. **(currently amended)**: Process for the preparation of cyclic forms of BAPO compounds of the formula VI

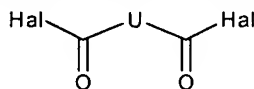


wherein

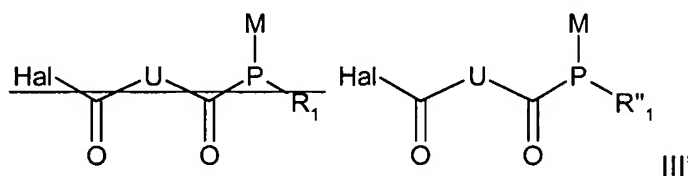
R''_1 is unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, benzyl, C_1 - C_{12} alkoxy, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, or C_5 - C_{14} aryl;

U is a divalent arylene residue;

characterized in that one equivalent of a dimetalated-phosphine $R_4P(M)_2$ - $R''_1P(M)_2$ are is reacted with one equivalent of a dicarboxylic acid halogenide



to form an intermediate of the formula III'

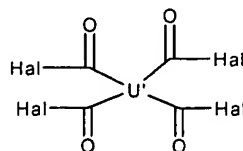


said intermediate cyclizes and is then oxidized to form phosphine oxides of the formula VI, wherein M is Li, Na or K; R_4 - R''_1 and U are as defined in ~~claim 5~~ above.

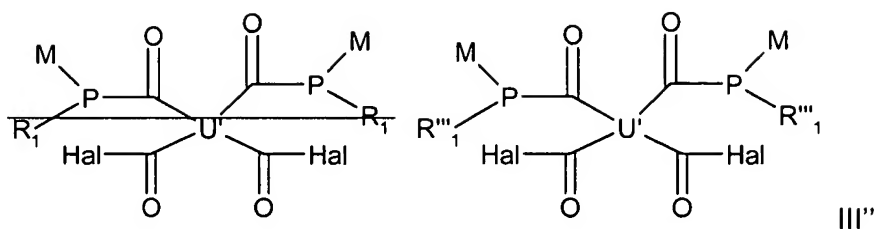
7. **(currently amended)**: Process for the preparation of cyclic forms of BAPO compounds of the formula VII

characterized in that two equivalents of a dimetalated-phosphine $R_4P(M)_2$ - $R''_1P(M)_2$ is reacted with

one equivalent of a tetracarboxylic acid halogenide



to form an intermediate of the formula III''



said intermediate cyclizes and is then oxidized to form phosphine oxides of the formula VII wherein M is Li, Na or K; R_1 , R''_1 and U' are as defined in claim 5.

8. **(currently amended)**: Process according to ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 3, ~~6 or 7~~, wherein M is Li and wherein the process is carried out in an inert atmosphere at a temperature from -20 to 80°C.

9. **(currently amended)**: Compounds according to ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 1, ~~2 or 4~~, wherein n is 1 and m is 1.

10. **(currently amended)**: Photopolymerizable composition comprising

(a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated photopolymerizable compound, and

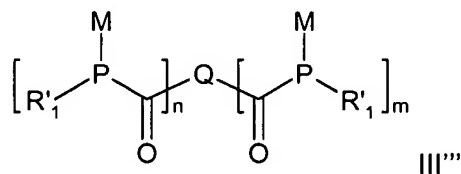
(b) as photo initiator, at least one compound of the formula I according to claim 1, II, VI or VII as defined above.

11. **(new)**: Process for the preparation of dimer or multimer forms of MAPO compounds of the formula II according to claim 2,

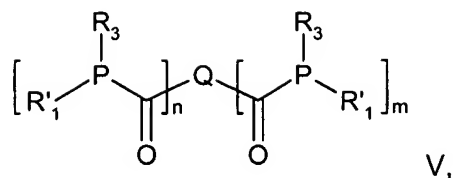
characterized in that (n + m) equivalents of a dimetalated-phosphine $R'_1P(M)_2$ are reacted with one

equivalent of a di-or polycarboxylic acid halogenide $\left[\text{Hal}-\text{C}(=\text{O}) \right]_n \text{Q} \left[\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{Hal} \right]_m$

to form an intermediate of the formula III'''

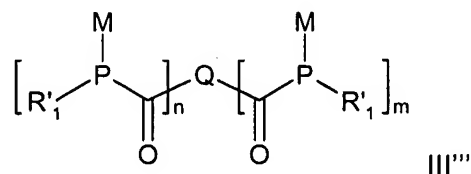


the intermediate III''' is then reacted with (n + m) equivalents of a halogenide $R_3\text{-Hal}$ to form dimer or multimer forms of **monoacyl**phosphine intermediates of the formula V,



said phosphines V are then oxidized to form phosphine oxides of the formula II according to claim 2, wherein M is Li, Na or K; and R'₁, R₃, Q, n and m are as defined in claim 2.

12. **(new)**: Compounds of the formula III'''



wherein M, R'₁, n and m are as defined in claim 11.

13. **(new)**: Process according to claim 6, wherein M is Li and wherein the process is carried out in an inert atmosphere at a temperature from -20 to 80°C.

14. **(new)**: Process according to claim 7, wherein M is Li and wherein the process is carried out in an inert atmosphere at a temperature from -20 to 80°C.

15. **(new)**: Process according to claim 11, wherein M is Li and wherein the process is carried out in an inert atmosphere at a temperature from -20 to 80°C.

16. **(new)**: Compounds according to claim 2, wherein n is 1 and m is 1.

17. **(new)**: Compounds according to claim 4, wherein n is 1 and m is 1.

18. **(new)**: Compounds according to claim 12, wherein n is 1 and m is 1.

19. **(new)**: Photopolymerizable composition comprising

- (a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated photopolymerizable compound, and
- (b) as photo initiator, at least one compound of the formula II according to claim 2.

20. **(new)**: Photopolymerizable composition comprising

- (a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated photopolymerizable compound, and
- (b) as photo initiator, at least one compound of the formula VI according to claim 6.

21. **(new)**: Photopolymerizable composition comprising

- (a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated photopolymerizable compound, and
- (b) as photo initiator, at least one compound of the formula VII according to claim 5.